

Don Clinent  
4135 17th St #103  
San Francisco CA 94114

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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am writing to let you know my strong opposition to the USTelecom petition. I am a retired senior citizen on a fixed income and i depend on smaller companies to have access to marketplace so that COMPETITION can keep retail prices within reach of millions and millions of Americans like me. The big behemoth companies such as AT&T, Comcast and Verizon are already making money hand-over-fist. There's no reason to give them enhanced access to more piles of money at my expense and the expense of others like me who depend on the ingenuity of smaller companies to find ways to compete.

Almost 2 years ago I gave up my AT&T landline and Internet services after more than 40 years. During my past 3 years with AT&T all I saw from AT &T is consistent price increases without any increased or enhanced services. When i initially left AT&T and went with a smaller company I was able to obtain the very same services, (landline and DSL internet) at a price just 55% of the charges levied by AT&T. About one year into my new service I was able to up-grade my ISP services to fiber. and of course much faster and more reliable service. And the extra charge for fiber - just \$2.00 per month. I do not miss AT&T and apparently they don't miss me either. In fact they have never even acknowledged me as their customer nor that I ended our 40 year+ relationship. I am very happy to have found a smaller competitive company that's able to provide both telephone and internet services at affordable prices and do it with actual customer service that provides real service from real and live people. You should try these services yourself - you'll be happily surprised.

We can't allow the proposed USTelecom petition to destroy the ability of smaller complies to compete in the marketplace. I urge you strongly to reject this proposal. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted

Don Clinent